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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
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Sheet 1 of 1

Confirmation Number	1232
Application Number	10/015631
Filing Date	10/DEC/2001
First Named Inventor	BENNIE THOMPSON
Group Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	NGUYEN, TUAN VAN
Attorney Docket Number	END0786USA

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
/TN/		2001/039426	A1	Makower	11-08-2001	
		3618842	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		3643851	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		3717294	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		3819100	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		3949924	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		4204623	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		4304236	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		4331277	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
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		4513746	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
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		4621639		Transue et al		
		4728020	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		5040715	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		5062563	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		5127486		Rice et al.	06-08-1993	
		5190203	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		5192288	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		5217472	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		5258010	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
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		5447514	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		5454825	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		5478003		Green, David T.	12-26-1995	
		5485952	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		5522817	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		5560532	A	United States Surgical Corp.		
		5593421	A	Bauer	01-14-1997	
		6530933		Yeung, et al		
		6626916		Yeung, et al		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	KindCode ⁵				
/TN/		EP	40157	A1	United States Surgical Corp.	EP		
		EP	543107	B1	United States Surgical Corp.	EP		
		WO	98/07374	A	Hayhurst	02-26-1998		

Examiner Signature	/Tuan Nguyen/	Date Considered	06/17/2008
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. ⁶ If possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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